

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND IN CANADA.

Intending settlers in Canada are strongly advised to communicate, either personally or by letter, with the nearest Agent of the Canadian Government in Great Britain before they leave, so as to obtain the fullest and latest advice applicable to their cases. A list of these officers will be found below, and they will supply not only the latest pamphlets relating to Canada, but any other information that may be required relating to the free grants of land, the prices of improved farms, land regulations, demand for labour, rates of wages, cost of passage, and all other particulars of interest to their correspondents. They also issue letters of introduction to the Government Agents in Canada in favour of desirable settlers. Pamphlets and information are supplied gratis and post free, and may be obtained either on personal application at any of the offices, or by letter to

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA,

17, Victoria Street, London, S.W. ;

THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICE.

Western Mail Buildings, Cardiff ;

THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICE,

15, Water Street, Liverpool ;

Mr. H. M. MURRAY, 52, St. Enoch Square, Glasgow; Mr. J. GRANT, Parkhurst, Dumfries, N.B.; Mr. M. T. DUNCAN, Carnoustie, Forfarshire; Mr. W. G. STUART, 66, South Guildry Street, Elgin; Mr. C. R. DEVLIN, Commissioner of Immigration, 14, Westmoreland Street, Dublin; Mr. E. O'KELLY, Harbour Board Buildings, Londonderry.

On reaching Canada, or at any time afterwards, the nearest Government Agent should be consulted, as they are in a position to furnish accurate particulars on all matters of interest to the new arrival.

Mr. W. F. CREARY, of Winnipeg, Manitoba, is the Commissioner of Immigration for Western Canada. Agencies are also established at the following places:—Halifax, Nova Scotia; St. John, New Brunswick; Quebec and Montreal in the province of Quebec; Winnipeg, Brandon, Minnedosa, and Lake Dauphin in the Province of Manitoba; Yorkton, Regina, and Estevan in Assiniboia; Lethbridge, Calgary, Red Deer, Wetaskiwin, and Edmonton in Alberta; Battleford and Prince Albert in Saskatchewan; Kamloops and New Westminster in British Columbia.

These Agents will afford the fullest advice and protection. They should be immediately applied to on arrival. All complaints should be addressed to them. They will furnish information as to lands open for settlement in their respective provinces and districts, farms for sale, demand for employment, rates of wages, routes of travel, distances, expenses of conveyance, and all other matters of interest to settlers, and will receive and forward letters, and remittances, &c. At each of the agencies an employment register is also kept. The object is to facilitate communication between persons seeking work and those who may have need of their services. No fees are charged either to employers or those seeking work.

Prominent Welshmen
ON THE
Resources of Western Canada.

THE
REPORT

OF
Mr. D. LLOYD GEORGE, M.P., Carnarvonshire ;
Mr. W. J. REES, J.P., The Laurels, Swansea ;
Mr. W. LLEWELLYN WILLIAMS, M.A., Llangadock ;

ON
THEIR VISIT TO CANADA IN 1899.

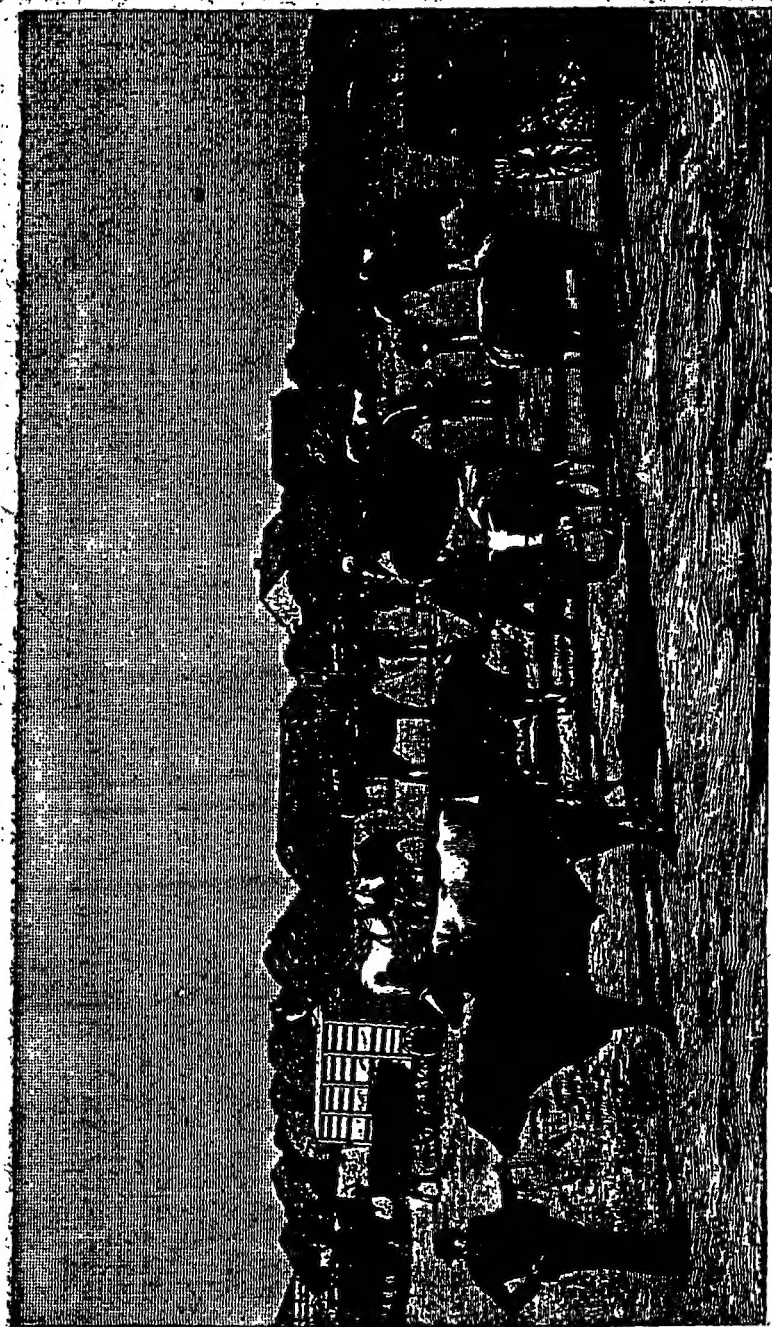


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FARM SCENE IN MANITOBA. THE BERRSFORD STOCK FARM

PREFACE.

In August, 1899, Messrs. D. LLOYD GEORGE, M.P., W. J. REES, J.P., and W. LLEWELYN WILLIAMS, M.A., visited Canada at the suggestion of the Canadian Government.

In 1893, Mr. John Roberts, of Plas Heaton Farm, Trefnant, R.S.O., North Wales and Mr. W. H. Dempster, of Charleston Road, R.S.O. South Wales, visited Canada, and reported favourably on the Colony as a field for the emigration of Welsh agriculturists.

Mr. Edwards, of Rhyl, Mr. W. J. Williams, Mayor of Carnarvon, Mr. W. J. Parry, of Bethesda, and the Rev. John Owen, M.A., of Criccieth, also visited Canada, and have reported favourably, encouraging Welsh settlers to proceed to Western Canada.

In 1898, Mr. David Davies, Editor of the "South Wales Daily Post," Swansea, visited Canada, and an important series of articles from his pen appeared in the "Western Mail," the "South Wales Daily Post," "Manchester Guardian," "Liverpool Daily Post," the "Western Daily Mercury," and certain of the Welsh vernacular newspapers. These, too, were favourable to Canada, so that it cannot be said that any Welshman will experience any difficulty in procuring impartial testimony as to the Dominion, from a number of gentlemen of the highest standing and ability.

During the last few years, the importance of Wales, as an emigration area has rapidly increased, so far as Canada is concerned, and hundreds of persons have moved from Wales to Canada, so that every County in the Principality is represented in the Dominion. In the great majority of cases, the progress attained, and the opinion expressed as to the new country are very favourable. There is the nucleus of a prosperous Welsh settlement at Rapid City, Manitoba, which will be considerably increased by new arrivals during the present season. There are also a number of families from Wales, at Ethelbert, in the Dauphin District, as well as in other parts of the country. Those people may always be depended upon to do their utmost for fellow-countrymen newly arriving in Canada, and very cheering evidence is to hand of the way in which the Welsh in the Rapid City District, have extended hospitality and advice to new arrivals, when most needed, viz., during the emigrants' first few weeks in the new land.

Respecting the Rapid City District in Manitoba, Mr. Peter James, of Ashdale Farm, who emigrated there in 1886, says, writing on the 1st February, 1900, "I have a good market for everything I grow, and we are getting 22c. to 25c.; (11d. to 1s. per lb.) for our butter." Messrs. Peter James, Mr. W. C. Harris, and C. James, three Welsh farmers in the same district write a joint letter containing the following. "We, the undersigned settlers from Wales, desire to express our opinion about the Rapid City District in Manitoba, where we are now settled. We believe this one of the best farming districts we ever

saw. Wheat will average 25 to 30 bushels to the acre, with good cultivation. The soil is very good. A rich, deep, black soil, that does not require fertilising, and is very productive. Our markets are good and we get good prices in cash for all we produce. Wheat, cattle, and butter, all bring good prices, and are cheaply produced. In short, we are more than satisfied with our lot, and know we shall succeed. Any man who is willing to use his hands will prosper."

Sir W. G. Van Horne, one of the ablest men in Canada, has stated that the Welsh, as settlers, are "second to none." Hon. Clifford Sifton, Minister of the Interior, Canada, states, he has not known of a "Welsh settler who was a failure." During the visit first above referred to, the Press of Canada, from one side of the Dominion to the other, made favourable reference to the good qualities of the Welsh settler. It is satisfactory to know that in Canada there exists a predisposition in favour of Welshmen, based upon a knowledge of their good qualities as settlers.

The Official Hand-book to Canada is issued in four parts. Part 1, contains general information about the whole of the Dominion, its trade, resources, finances, etc., the classes of persons advised to emigrate, and general advice for their guidance; Part 2, relates to Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, and Ontario; Part 3, to Manitoba and the North-west Territories; and Part 4, to British Columbia. Copies of any, or all, of these pamphlets may be obtained gratis and post free, on application, personally or by letter, to the Canadian Government Agents, whose names and addresses are given on the last page of the cover.

In these books will also be found particulars as to the Free Grants of Land.

Lands for Sale.

In addition to the free-grant lands available in Manitoba and the North-West Territories, several companies have large blocks of land which they offer for disposal at reasonable rates, from \$2.50 up to \$10 per acre. Among others are the Canadian Pacific Railway Company (Land Commissioner, Mr. L. A. Hamilton, Winnipeg), and the Hudson Bay Company (Chief Commissioner, Mr. C. C. Chipman, Winnipeg). The same remark applies to the Manitoba and North-Western Railway Company (Mr. Webster Commissioner); and there are several other companies. The Alberta Coal and Railway Company also own nearly half a million acres of land in the district of Alberta. The prices of these lands vary according to position, but in most cases the terms of purchase are easy, and arranged in annual instalments, spread over a number of years.

Improved Farms.

In all the provinces improved farms may be purchased at reasonable prices—that is, farms on which buildings have been erected and a portion of the land cultivated. The following are the average prices for freehold land in the different provinces, the prices being regulated by the position of the farms, the nature and extent of the buildings, and contiguity to towns and railways:—Prince Edward Island, from £4 to £7 per acre; Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Quebec, from £2 to £10; Ontario, from £2 to £20; Manitoba and the North-West Territories, from £1 to £10; and British Columbia, from £2 to £20. These farms become vacant for the reasons which apply everywhere. They are most suitable for persons possessed of some means, who desire more of the social surroundings than can be obtained in parts of the various provinces in which Free Grant Government lands are still available for occupation and settlement.

Demand for Labour.

In WESTERN CANADA the demand for miners is likely to be good for many years to come. The rate of wages at present is about 12/- to 14/- per day of 8 hours. Board costs about £1 per week and is very good. Many of the Welsh miners now in Canada intend to avail themselves of the great inducements which the North West Territories hold out to those who adopt the life of a farmer, and as soon as they save enough money to enable them to do so, they will take up farms for themselves.

Farm labourers earn from 150 to 200 dollars a year, with board and lodging, and, in rare cases, at the rate of 300 dollars a year for eight months. As much as 20 to 25 dollars is paid in the summer months to first-rate men, but inexperienced men, just arrived, must take nominal wages, including board and lodging. In the winter months ordinary farm labourers earn from 8 to 12 dollars a month with board, and for spring work from 15 dollars upwards, the work being heavy in summer, but light in winter.

Cost of Provisions, Clothing, &c.

WESTERN CANADA.—MANITOBA.—*Provisions*.—Beef, per lb., 2½d. to 7½d.; mutton, per lb., 4d. to 7½d.; pork, per lb., 4d. to 6½d.; veal, per lb., 4d. to 7½d.; are according to cut. Hams and bacon, per lb., 6½d.; corned beef, per lb., 2½d. to 5d.; Salt pork, per lb., 5d.; cheese, per lb., 6½d.; butter, per lb., 10d. to 1s.; eggs, summer, per doz., 6d. to 7½d.; eggs, winter, per doz., 10d. to 1s. 3d.; sausages, pork, per lb., 5d.

Clothing.—Trousers, heavy cloth, per pair, 6s.; corduroy, per pair, 10s.; moleskins, per pair, 10s.; heavy frieze overcoat, from 20s.; heavy frieze pea jacket, 14s. 6d. to 20s.; working suit, from 20s.; Sunday suit, good, £2 10s. to £3 10s.; coloured cotton shirts, 2s. each; woollen shirts, 3s.; felt hats, from 2s.; cloth caps, winter, 2s.; wool socks, per pair, 10d.; cotton socks, per pair, 5d.; men's laced brogans, per pair, 4s. to 6s.; men's rubber, 12s. 6d. to 14s. 6d.; men's low shoes, 6s. to 8s. 6d.; men's Sunday boots, 8s. 6d. to 12s. 6d.; women's common laced boots, 6s.; fine buttoned boots, 6s. to 8s. 6d.; low shoes, 6s. to 8s. 6d.

CALGARY, N.-W.T.—*Provisions, &c.*—Bacon, per lb., 5d.; bread, 1lb. loaf, 4d.; butter, salt, per lb., 7½d.; fresh, per lb., 10d.; beef, cuts, per lb., 3d. to 7½d.; beer, per quart, 5½d.; candles, per lb., 7½d.; coal oil, per gal., 1s. 8d.; coffee, ground, per lb., 1s. 3d. to 2s.; eggs, per doz., according to season (average) 7½d.; flour, per barrel, best (196 lbs.), 20s.; ham, per lb., 7½d.; milk, per quart, 3½d.; mutton, per lb., cuts, 3d. to 7½d.; oatmeal, 100 lbs., rolled, 12s. 6d.; potatoes, per bushel (average), 1s.; pork, fresh, cuts, per lb., 6½d.; veal, per lb., 7½d.; rice, per lb., 3d.; soap, yellow, per lb., 4d.; tea, black, per lb., 1s. to 4s.; tobacco, per lb., 3s. 2d.

Clothing.—Coats, under, tweed, 10s. to 50s.; over, 20s. to £3 10s.; trousers, 6s. to 20s.; vests, 6s. to 10s.; shirts, flannel, all wool, 7s. to 12s. 6d., cotton, 2s. to 4s.; under, all wool, 2s. to 10s., cotton, 2s. to 7s.; hats, hard felt, 10s. to 14s. 6d.; socks, woollen, 1s. to 2s., cotton, 5d. to 1s.; blankets, all wool, per pair, 6 to 12 lbs., 14s. 6d. to 37s. 6d.; shoes, men's, per pair, 5s. 6d. to 7s.; women's, per pair, 5s. to 10s.; boots, men's, per pair, 5s. 6d. to 13s. 6d.; women's, per pair, 6s. to 12s. 6d.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.—VANCOUVER.—*Provisions*.—Beef, roasts or steak, per lb., 5d. to 9d.; veal, roasts or steak, per lb., 6½d. to 7½d.; pork, per lb., 6½d.; mutton, leg or loin, per lb., 7½d.; shoulder, per lb., 5d. to 6½d.; Australian or

New Zealand, per lb., 5½d.; pork sausages, per lb., 6½d.; fish: cod, per lb., 4d.; salmon, per lb., 5d.; sea bass, per lb., 2½d.; soles, per lb., 4d.; whiting, per lb., 4d.; halibut, per lb., 5d.; sturgeon, per lb., 5d.; flour, best, per barrel (196 lbs.), 20s. to 22s.

Clothing.—Wool, tweed, serge, or worsted suits, 40s. to £3 8s.; "Union" tweed or serge, per suit, 14s. 6d. to 40s.; underwear, all wool, plain or ribbed, per suit, 8s. to 25s.; "Union," per suit, 6s. to 8s. 6d.; cotton, per suit, 2s. to 8s.; socks, cotton, per pair, 5d. to 1s.; heavy wool, per pair, 7½d. to 1s. 6d.; felt hats, 2s. to 5s.; caps, tweed and serge, 1s. to 3s.; shirts: cotton, 2s. to 3s.; flannelette, 1s. 6d. to 3s.; flannel, 4s. to 6s.

Helpful Notes.

Manitoba is everywhere free of stumps and stones, and little draining is required owing to the porous nature of the soil and the configuration of the country.

There are boards of trade in the chief cities and towns of the country that make a study of local commercial and agricultural requirements, and indirectly they do good service to the agricultural classes.

There are forty-seven agricultural societies in the province receiving about \$325 each annually from the Government to aid them in making up prize lists for their autumn shows. There is, besides, an annual provincial exhibition.

At the twenty-three Farmers' Institutes, scattered over the country, meetings are held at regular intervals, when all the improved methods of farming, cattle raising, and dairying are discussed. These discussions are of considerable value to new arrivals in the western country.

The Government takes precaution against the spread of diseases in horses and cattle and of noxious weeds on the farms.

The Government encourages, by the grant of a sum of money, the maintenance of a poultry association; this has led to the improvement in poultry that places the province in the front rank in that respect.

One of the best evidences of the success of agriculturists in Manitoba is that resident farmers invest every dollar they can spare from time to time in buying more land for themselves and their families.

During certain months, during harvesting and threshing a good man can usually get from \$30 to \$35 a month and his board, but a yearly engagement with a farmer is a matter of chance and negotiation. A man and his wife, if the latter understands the necessities of the farm, are sometimes asked for.

Out of the 100,000 head of cattle shipped from Montreal to Great Britain in 1897, Manitoba and the North-West furnished 28,000, or more than the one-quarter.

Manitoba now exports large quantities of butter and flour to China, and in 1897 it sent 6,500 tons of flour to Australia.

There are sixty-three newspapers published in Manitoba, one for every 4,000 people, showing that many read three or four newspapers.

There are no castes or classes in Manitoba, all are equal, and the highest positions in the gift of the country are open to any man who fits himself for them, and has gained the general esteem of the people.

REPORT

OF THE

WELSH DELEGATION TO CANADA.

TO

**THE RIGHT HON. LORD STRATHCONA
AND MOUNT ROYAL,**

CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER.

MY LORD,

In accordance with the invitation extended to us by the Government of the Dominion of Canada, through your Lordship and Mr. W. L. Griffith, the Government Agent in Wales, we visited British North America this autumn, and we beg to submit to your Lordship this report of the impressions we formed of the country. We were not hampered in any way by instructions or suggestions from the Government as to the form and character of our Report, and as we were only in the country from September 2nd, till October 7th, our Report must be necessarily incomplete and inadequate; nor can we claim for our views in many respects the merit of perfect accuracy. All that we can pretend to is that we have made every effort, during the short time at our disposal, to arrive honestly at the facts and to draw from them, to the best of our ability, true and just conclusions.

We wish, also, to place upon record our grateful sense of the kindness and hospitality which were everywhere accorded to us, and of the readiness with which all the Government officials, with whom we came into contact, offered us every facility necessary for the purposes of this enquiry. In this connection we would wish specially to mention Mr. Frank Pedley, the Superintendent of Immigration, at Ottawa, who treated us with the greatest consideration. Mr. Speers, of Griswold, who personally conducted us in our visits to Brandon, Rapid City, Whitewood, and the Moose Mountain district, and Mr. Herchmer, Regina, the Commissioner of the N.W. Mounted Police, of whose kindness and courtesy we retain the most grateful recollection. We left Canada with most pleasant feelings towards her people and Government. We liked the land, the climate, the institutions, and the people; and nothing was left undone which could have conduced to our enjoyment or instruction.

The greater portion of our time was spent in Manitoba, the North West provinces and British Columbia. The agricultural districts visited were Brandon, and Rapid City in Manitoba; and Whitewood, Cannington Manor, Carlyle, the Moose Mountain and the unsettled portion north and west of it; and Regina, in Assiniboia.

Before starting on our visit to the prairie we were shown over the Government's experimental farm at Brandon. We were greatly struck by the care and minuteness of its cultivation, its fine appointments, especially the ensilage, and its splendid arrangements generally. The exhibition room, full as it was of samples of the various grasses, grains, bush, fruit, and root crops, grown in Manitoba impressed us with the richness and fertility of the soil. The samples we saw of the "No. 1 Manitoba hard" wheat, convinced us that there is no country better adapted for grain growing.

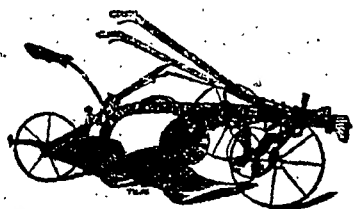


FROM NEAR RAPID CITY

In the districts around Brandon, Rapid City, Whitewood, Cannington Manor, Carlyle, and Regina, there is no room for large colonies of settlers, as a good deal of the land has already been taken up. But in all these districts there are still plenty of quarter and half and whole sections (of 160, 320, and 640 acres respectively) the freehold of which can be acquired at prices varying from \$3 to \$10 or \$15 per acre, and which can be paid for by instalments running over ten years. To the north and west of the Moose Mountain, however, there lies an extensive tract of prairie, which is almost entirely unsettled. Owing to its present remoteness from railways and the hardships which are separable from pioneer life in new districts, we would hesitate to suggest the formation there of a large colony of settlers, as experience has shown that greater success is attained when the new settlers locate among those acquainted with the country, the climate and the style of agriculture.

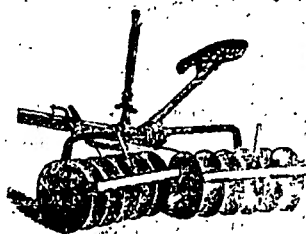
Short though our stay was, we enjoyed opportunities of interviewing scores of old and new settlers, and perhaps we cannot do better than to give here a brief record of the experiences of a few of them. We have no reason to believe that any one of these is exceptional or extraordinary. Their real value arises from the fact that they seem to us to be typical.

Mr. Benjamin James, late of Clarboston Road, Pembrokeshire, emigrated to Canada, in June 1898. He bought a section of 640 acres near Rapid City, Manitoba (where there are a number of thriving Welsh settlers), 320 acres at \$5 per acre, and 320 acres at \$4 per acre or \$2,880 (= about £600) in all. The homestead is situate about a mile from the Saskatchewan River, where there is good fishing. The land is clean, and free from stones. A little "bluff," or grove of maple and other trees, affords a pleasant shelter to the house, but otherwise the farm is treeless, and the wood from the house had to be brought from Rapid City. The maple tree, however, will grow readily wherever planted. The air is dry, there is little or no wet, though the cold is intense for at least four months in winter. We were warned everywhere, however, against concluding that the intensity of cold could be fairly estimated by the thermometer. As a fact, the dryness of the atmosphere is such that on the coldest winter's day, when the thermometer shows 30 to 40 below zero, the discomfort is no greater than during a severe English winter. Indeed, winter is the "gay" season of social converse and enjoyment.



GANG PLOUGH FOR FOUR HORSES.

Turning two fourteen-inch furrows.



DISC HARROWS.

Used on newly-broken prairie.

In addition to buying his homestead, Mr. James has already spent the following sums as initial outlay:—

New wooden house	..	..	..	\$500
3 Teams Horses	..	..	..	\$600
2 Ploughs	..	..	..	\$36
1 Harrow	..	..	..	\$12
1 Binder and reaper	..	..	..	\$130
1 Wagon	..	..	..	\$60
2 Cows	..	..	..	\$60
Sow and litter of pigs	..	..	..	\$30
Poultry	..	..	..	\$5
Grain Sacks, etc.	..	..	..	\$40

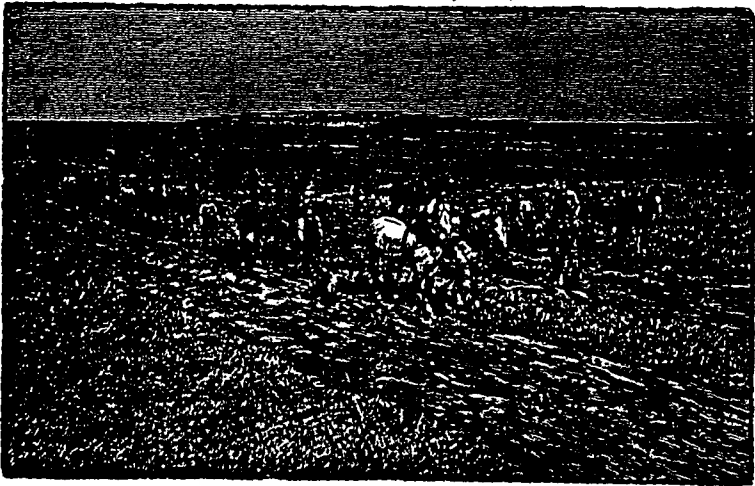
Seed (100 bushels)	..	..	..	\$75
Taxes	..	..	..	\$10
Sundries	..	..	..	\$10

Total \$1573

or about £320.

This, added to the price of the farm, gives an initial capital expenditure of £920.

This year—which, it must be remembered, is his first year on the farm—there were 100 acres under crops, and 60 acres of summer fallow, 160 acres in all; 65 acres are under wheat, 35 under oats and barley. The average yield per acre was estimated at 30 bushels. Wheat is sold at about 60 cents, and oats and barley at about 30 cents per bushel. The latter, however, are kept by Mr. James for stock-feeding, and the produce of his farm this year will therefore yield about £250.



BREAKING THE VIRGIN PRAIRIE.

Mr. James employs no hired help. He has three sons working on the farm, and lately two daughters have also joined him. As a strong serving man will earn \$180 per annum, and his board, a sum of \$540 should be deducted from the gross returns in order to arrive at the net profit. Leaving out of account, for the present, the capital expenditure involved in buying the section, building the house, and buying stock, and allowing the three sons' wages of \$180 a year, the figures show an expenditure during the year of \$565. Spreading the capital expenditure already alluded to of about \$4,500 over a period of 10 years, or \$450 a year, the total expenditure amounts to \$1,015, as against a gross profit of \$1,205. So that on the first year's working,

after an expenditure such as is neither usual nor necessary for a man of small capital, a small profit has been realised.

Next year 200 acres will be under cultivation, of which 165 will bear wheat. Under conditions similar to those obtaining this year, the produce next year will be worth \$2,970 while the working expenses will be the same, so that the net profit will be about £390. The following year, if another 100 acres is by that time brought under cultivation, the profits will be increased by £300 or more; and so on, until the limit of possible cultivation will have been reached.

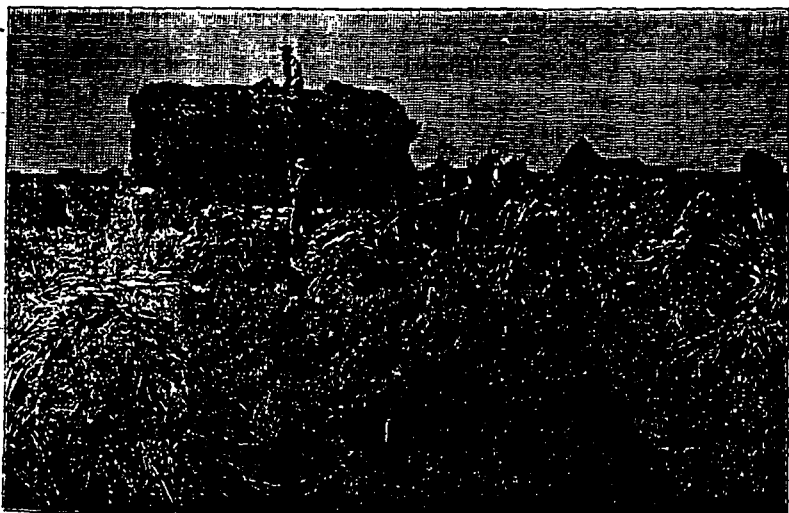
The sons, who work on the farm, are satisfied with their new life, though they felt lonely during their first winter. The two daughters, one of whom is only 16, came out as recently as last June. They complained of home-sickness; they were lonely, knew nobody, and said they were determined to go back to their mother in Pembrokeshire.



PLOUGHING THE STUBBLE ON THE PRAIRIE.

Another settler, whose story is worth giving, is Mr. Archibald, of Poplar Grove, a homestead, about 20 miles to the south of Moosomin Station. He came to Assiniboia from Nova Scotia 13 years ago. He took first of all a quarter section of free grant Government land (160 acres). Neither his wife nor he had had any previous agricultural training, he had been a storekeeper in the eastern provinces, and they experienced terrible reverses, mainly through frost, during their first two or three years. At one time, indeed, they had spent all their little capital and suffered great privation. Mrs. Archibald especially complained of the awful loneliness and suffering of their life during those years, and said that she would not go through it again at any price. Now, however, the tide has turned. Their nearest railway station is now only 20 miles distant—when they first settled, their nearest station was Winnipeg, over 200 miles away. They own and farm a whole section of 640 acres, and they hold, besides, a large ranche, four miles to the south of the homestead, with 250 head of

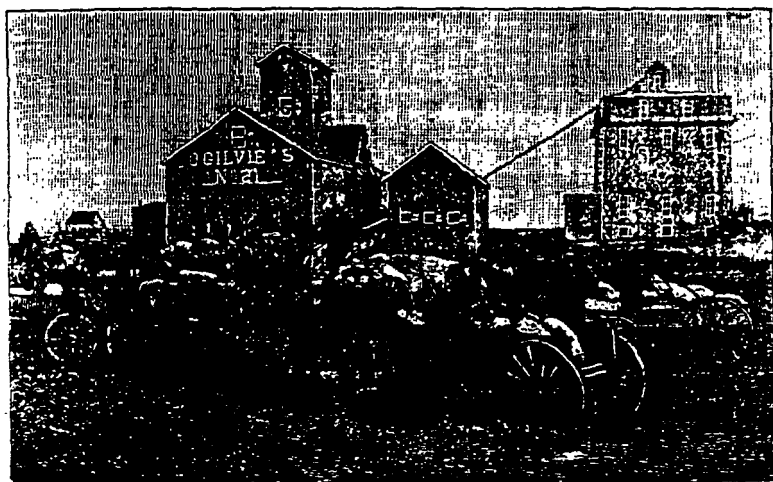
cattle, from yearlings to 4 years old (these cattle we saw, and they were as fine, as anything that could be produced in England). The children are growing up; a school and a chapel have been erected near the homestead; and the country around is being gradually settled. Spite of the early difficulties which deprived him of the whole of his capital, this settler is now worth at least from \$15,000 to \$20,000, or about £4,000—all of which has been made in the course of the last ten years.



HARVESTING THE FIRST CROP.

Another settler, whom we interviewed, was a man named Gilbert, who lives about 5 miles north of Cannington Manor in Assiniboia. His nearest railway station is Moosomin, about 25 or 30 miles to the north. Gilbert was at one time a policeman in Lancashire, and emigrated 6 years ago to St. Anne's Ontario, when he was 49 years of age. After remaining with some relatives in Ontario for a year, he went out to the west and settled in his present habitation. He was twice burnt out by prairie fires, by which he lost everything that he possessed. Nevertheless, to-day, he owns a quarter section farm (of free grant land), of which 27 acres are this year under wheat, 2 cows, 3 horses, some pigs, and poultry. When he came out west, he had only a dollar in his possession on leaving the train, and so he has, and has had, to work as a labourer on neighbouring homesteads, in order to eke out a livelihood. He has to cultivate his own farm on off days, and generally in his spare time, which accounts for the smallness of the number of acres under cultivation. He estimated that his crop this year would yield about 25 bushels to the acre, and this, at 60 cents. per bushel, would give him about £80. With this money he intends to bring his wife and daughter from the old country. In addition to the wheat crop, his possessions consist of—

Horses (3)	\$200
Cows (2)	\$60
Harness	\$30
Plough	\$27
Harrows	\$17
Mower	\$52
Binder	\$150
Rake	\$28
Sleighs	\$27
Wagon	\$75
Frame-house, 16ft. by 24ft. ..	\$200
Pigs and Poultry	\$20
Furniture	\$50
Total	\$936 = £187.



A CASH MARKET FOR ALL GRAIN.

The prices given are somewhat higher than those quoted to us by implement dealers, &c., but Gilbert, who started with no capital, had to buy on the hire-purchase system, and he has now finished paying).

Thus, in five years, a man who had but little previous knowledge of farming, already in his 49th year, severely handicapped by lack of capital, tempted, according to his own admission, to neglect work owing to the profusion of wild duck and other game in the district, and in spite of two disastrous prairie fires, has actually saved over £250 (which is of course, mostly invested in the cultivation of his farm) and is besides the owner in fee simple of 160 acres. As he himself said, he had already saved more than he ever hoped to have by him in his old age, had he remained a policeman. Naturally, also,

with the opening up of the country, the nearer approach of railways, and his ability to devote more time to the cultivation of the homestead, the farm will grow yearly in value.

We shall content ourselves with recording one more interview with a settler, Mr. Dermody, who lives at Montgomery, situate 15 miles to the north of the Moose Mountain, and 25 miles south of Whitewood, in Assiniboia. Though Dermody, who was one of the "pioneers" of the district, settled there from Ontario 18 years ago, the country around is still only sparsely settled. Dermody owns a whole section of 640 acres. He stated that during the first few years, he also suffered great privations, mainly owing to his ignorance of the character of the country and the style of the farming, and his remoteness from a railway, which has now been brought within easier distance. For example, in 1885, he had a record crop of wheat. He neglected to cut it in time, expecting the straw as well as the ear to ripen. At the end of August he had 3 nights of frost, which destroyed the wheat. At that time he had no stock, and the frost-bitten wheat was useless and valueless. Now, however, if he experienced such a calamity, he could use the wheat for feeding purposes, or he could dispose of it to neighbours or grain buyers for 40 cents. (instead of 60 cents. per bushel). But in 1885 it was a dead loss. This year, Dermody has about 250 acres under wheat, and he expects the crop to realise from \$3,000 to \$4,000, or between £600 and £800. He gave it as his opinion that a settler with \$500 could confidently take a quarter section of free grant land, and an adjoining quarter section of Canadian Pacific Railway land at \$3 per acre, spread over 13 yearly instalments. But if a new comer had less than \$500 capital, the best thing for him would be to work on the neighbouring farms during the harvest (when he could earn on an average \$30 and his keep a month, for two or three months), and content himself with working on his own homestead at his leisure. He advised settlers to come out in the month of April, when they would have ample time to fix up a house for the winter, and prepare about 30 or 50 acres for the next year's crop. He thought the best thing an "old countryman" could do would be to hire himself out to a settler for a year, by the end of which time he would be conversant with the country, and the style of farming suitable to it. An ordinarily good farmer, he added, could plough 3 acres a day, cut up one acre, back set one acre, harrow 15 acres, and drill 12 acres. Back setting, however, he explained, is now superseded by cutting with a disc-harrow, which can be done at the rate of 8 acres a day. Dermody himself summer-fallowed his land after 3 crops in order to keep it clear of weeds,—ploughing the stubble growth in June.

We spent a day also, at Regina, and drove round the country near the town in company with Mr. Commissioner Herchmer, the Head of the North West Mounted Police, and Mr. Paul, a retired farmer, who was for 14 years engaged in agriculture in the district. The soil around Regina is exceedingly rich and fertile, but somewhat heavy. A settler in that district would require a strong team of

horses, and generally he would have to provide himself with more capital than would be necessary in the lighter soil we had seen in Manitoba and around the Moose Mountain. On the other hand, Mr. Paul assured us that he had only known crops to be interfered with by frost in that district once during his experience, and even then the damage was slight. About 6 miles from the town there are large portions of unsettled country, and tracks of ten miles square can be had in plenty, suitable for mixed farming. Water is abundant, but there is little or no wood.



A PRAIRIE HOMESTEAD AFTER A FEW YEARS.

Of the country which we actually saw, *i.e.*, from Brandon to Rapid City and back to Kenmay Station, from Whitewood to Cannington Manor and Carlyle, and to the south, north and north west of the Moose Mountain, we cannot speak too highly. The only drawbacks seem to be—

- (1) The liability of Crops to be damaged by Frost, but the
- (a) risk seems, if we may believe the universal testimony of settlers, to be diminishing as the country becomes more settled and cultivated.
- (b) Frost-bitten wheat is not now a total loss, as a ready cash market is obtainable at a reduction of 20 cents. per bushel. The frost, does not, of course, as the returns show, affect the standing of the country as one of the greatest wheat producing areas of the world.
- (c) Only parts of the country are so affected, *e.g.*, the corn grown on the northern or north-eastern side a ridge is, we were informed, safer than that grown on the southern or south-eastern side. The reason given was that the frost comes from the north-west and settles on the "still" (*i.e.* the

south) side of the ridge. Moreover, at Regina, we were told that frost was almost unknown. The Bishop of Qu'Appelle gave us some remarkable instances of the eccentricities of the frost, which in one case attacked a garden, and passed another within 50 yards of it, in Indian Head.

- (d) Farmers, by going in for mixed farming, can avoid being entirely dependent on their crops.
 - (II) Prairie Fires, but
 - (a) Naturally the danger is rapidly decreasing as the country becomes settled, and
 - (b) The stipulations as to fire-guards, &c., are being more rigidly enforced.
 - (III) The loneliness, which is, of course, inseparable from pioneer life in a new country, especially where farms often run to an area of a mile square.
 - (IV) The absence of "Home Comforts" during the first few years is no doubt severely felt by a poor settler who starts with little or no capital.
 - (V) The shortness of the Summer entails a period of hard and even feverish work. All the work of ploughing, sowing, and harvesting, is compressed between the end of the second week in April and the second week in November, but
 - (a) though the season is short, it is sufficient and
 - (b) It leaves the farmer plenty of leisure for the remainder of the year.
 - (VI) The scarcity of fuel and of wood and stone for building though those can be purchased at the railway station.
- ON THE OTHER HAND, the evidence is, in our opinion, overwhelming that, given

- (I) SUFFICIENT CAPITAL, which would seem to be about £100 to every quarter section of 160 acres.
- (II) Practical knowledge of farming, and acquaintance with the style of agriculture, suitable to the country.
- (III) Health, strength, capacity, and willingness to work, and
- (IV) A fair and reasonable amount of prudence,

THESE DISTRICTS OFFER GREAT AND GENEROUS INDUCEMENTS to settlers. The land yields good crops without the necessity of manuring. Taxes are light, laws are equitable, administration is pure, institutions are free and liberal, educational facilities are excellent (a school being provided by Government in every settled district within 3 miles of furthest homestead), railways are enterprising (in fact, the energy and public spirit of all the railway companies from the Canadian Pacific Railway downwards struck us as being one of the most remarkable

features in the development of Canada), and as long as a settler does not go too far ahead of a railway—not more, say, than 30 miles from a station—he is certain of a ready cash market for grain and stock. The instances we have already given, which are in no sense exceptional, and which could be rivalled and surpassed by others of which we have heard from trustworthy sources, but which, we do not give here because our knowledge of them is not at first hand, sufficiently to attest the material prosperity of the ordinary settler. We may add that we purposely avoided the parts of the country which are the best settled, *e.g.*, Portage la Prairie and Indian Head, and generally the oldest established districts in Manitoba.



MAIN STREET, WINNIPEG.

We also heard that in Saskatchewan Territory, between Yorkton and Prince Albert, and in the Beaver Mountain District, there is a vast track of unsettled land, which was described to us by one who had recently visited it, as a Paradise, and as the best land in Canada. We received excellent accounts also of the district around Perley in Assiniboia (where there are some Welshmen already settled and flourishing), of the Dauphin country, which is still largely unsettled, the land around Edmonton in the North West Territories, and the Rainy River, and other unsettled districts of Ontario. We had no time, however, to visit these districts personally, and we can do no more than mention these statements made to us on what we regard as unimpeachable authority, for what they are worth. We found the settlers everywhere pleased with their own immediate district, which was almost invariably described as the best in Canada. We can only recall to mind one settler who was dissatisfied with his bargain. Life in

Canada, said this gentleman, combined all the characteristics of penal servitude; viz. transportation, solitary confinement, and hard labour. We subsequently discovered that this gentleman had recently been dismissed from his post at the Emigration Department.

During our visit to British Columbia, we were greatly impressed with the immense and seemingly inexhaustible mineral resources of the Province. Coal and iron ore, gold and copper, silver and lead, mica and marble, there seems to be no limit to the marvellous natural mineral wealth of the country. At Fernie, near the Crow's Nest Pass, a coal mine which was only opened last year, now outputs 1,000 tons of excellent coal per day. Already three seams of coal, each 30ft. thick have been discovered, and we were assured by the Managing Director and the General Manager that in another year the output will at least be doubled. We found that there were several Welsh miners at Fernie, one of whom, David John Roberts, late of Tonypany, South Wales, together with his wife and child, we saw. Roberts speaks very highly of the place and its prospects. He earns \$3 or 12s. 6d. in a day of 8 hours. Though neither Roberts nor the officials were favourable to anything like a wholesale emigration of Welsh miners, they said there was plenty of work for expert miners who came out in small batches, and that, indeed, no one who was able and willing to work need be afraid of emigrating to Canada. There are Methodist and Presbyterian Churches in Fernie, but it is a fact which intending Welsh emigrants will have to bear in mind, that neither here nor in any town or district in Canada—with, we believe, the solitary exception of the coal mining district of Nainamo in Vancouver Island are there religious services conducted in the Welsh language.

The fact, that British Columbia, with a climate similar to that of Great Britain, is so rich in mineral resources, which are being rapidly developed, must necessarily have, and as a fact is already having a great effect on the value of agricultural land in Manitoba and the North West Territories. At present, practically the only market for the grain and produce of the fertile belt of Canada is Great Britain. The development of British Columbia, and the consequent congregation of a teeming population in that province, will place a ready market for their produce at the door of the Canadian farmers. We were informed that British Columbia already consumes a great quantity of Canadian butter, and the smaller cattle which are not exported to England, are sold in that Province.

The Canadian farmers will, in the near future, have, in addition to the English market which is free to all, a near market, where they will have, to all intents and purposes, no competition.

(Signed)

{ D. LLOYD GEORGE.
W. J. REES.
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RETAIL PRICES OF FARM MACHINERY, &c.

AT WINNIPEG.—For Cash.—Self-Binder, £27 6s.; No. 3, Brantford Mower, £9 17s.; Sharpe's Rake, £5 7s.; Tiger Rake, £5; Three-section Harrows, £2 13s. 6d.; Four-section Harrows, £3 10s.; Twelve Disc Harrows, £5 11s.; 12-in. Prairie Breaker, £3 10s.; 14-in. Prairie Breaker, £3 18s.; Light Brush Breaker, £4 10s. 6d.; Heavy Brush Breaker, £5 2s.; No. 14 Combination Plough for breaking or stubble, £5 6s. 10d.; 3½ Waggon, £13 7s.; 3¼ Waggon, £13 13s.; Farm Sleighs, £5; Binding Twine, 9½ to 10½ cents. according to quality.

AT ALAMEDA.—255 miles south-west of Winnipeg.—Self-Binder, £28 10s.; Mower, £10 5s.; Horse Rake, £5 15s.; Sulky Plough 16-in., £10 5s.; Combination Plough, two mould boards and two points, £5 2s.; Cross or Stubble Plough, from £3 to £4; Seed Drill, 14 hoe, £15 8s.; Seed Drill, 12 hoe, £13 7s.; Waggon, complete, £14 8s.; Top Buggies, from £15 8s. to £19 10s. Binding Twine, 10 cents. per pound.

AT CALGARY.—840 miles from Winnipeg.—No. 14 "V" Long-Handled Plough, £4 19s.; New Model Short-Handled Stubble Plough, No. 14, £3 14s.; Belle City Breaking Plough, No. 16, £4 2s.; Belle City Breaking Plough, No. 12, £3 18s. Belle City Breaking Plough, No. 14, £4 6s.; Verity North-West Brush Breaker, No. 12, £4 14s. 6d.; Verity North-West Brush Breaker, No. 14, £5 7s.; Victoria Sulky Plough, £11 6s.; Victoria Gang Plough, No. 12, £15 8s.; Farm Waggon, with Double Box, cast skein, £14 7s. to £15 8s.

AT EDMONTON.—1,030 miles north-west of Winnipeg.—Self-Binders, £30 Mowers, 4½ft., £10 18s.; Shoe Drill Seeders (15 shoes) £17 10s.; Rakes, £5 11s. to £6 3s. 3d.; Disc Harrows, £6 16s.; 14-in. Gang Ploughs, £15 8s. 14-in. Walking Plough, £3 14s.; Brush Breaker, £4 10s. 6d.; 16-in. Sulky Plough, £11 6s.; Waggon, £15 to £16 9s.; "Buck-Boards," £10 6s. up; Best Manila Binding Twine 11 cents. per pound.